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CONTENTS.

Editorial Notes: 689

Leading Articles:
The Reform Bill in the House of Lords 692
The Asiatic Problem in the Colonies 693

Other Articles:
Rulers of India:
H. H. Sir Shahu Chhatrapati Maharaj Maharaja of Kolhapur 694
World Tremors By 'Workman' 696

Reviews:
Uncensored Celebrities 698
From Mill-Boy to Minister 699

Periodicals Reviewed: 700
The Blackwood's Magazine.
The Modern Review.
The Occult Review.

Native States: 701
Investiture of the Thakore of Palitana.
The Dewas State and the War.
The Mysore Legislative Council.

Railways: 702
Railway Refreshment Rooms and Cars.
The Annual Meeting of the South Indian Railway.
British Railway men.

News in Brief: 703
Odds and Ends: 704
Advertisements: 705—708

We may be permitted to state that the views of our contributors and correspondents do not necessarily reflect the policy of the Wednesday Review.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Mr. Montagu has just forgot the Zamindars in his all-embracing scheme of reform. He has good excuse for the omission. He has been so much absorbed in the none too easy task of placating agitators-and the Zamindars are not agitators either by instinct or training-that he has had really no time to attend to their interests, with the result that they are practically nowhere in the great scheme of reform. The Maharaja of Cossimbazaar protests againts the treatment accorded to his class but we fear that the protest is rather belated. The Maharaja draws attention to the circumstance that on the Bengal Legislative Council that is to be constituted under the Montagu dispensation, the Mahamadens will have their representation multiplied sevenfold, the Europeans thrice, but the Zamindars will have to be content with what has been given them under the Minto-Morley Scheme. Neither Mr. Montagu nor Lord Chelmsford can justify the scant consideration shown to the Zamindars in the Reform Bill. In their Joint-Report they are profuse in their compliments of the Zamindars for their good sense and loyalty, but beyond compliments they have not had substantial advantages secured to them in the reform scheme. They cannot disclaim responsibility for the omission as it lay in the first instance with them to safeguard the interests of the landed aristocracy of India by proper representations on their behalf. Because the Zamindars, true to their culture and up-bringing, have not cared to embarrass the Government by unseasonable and mischievous agitation, they have been relegated to the background, while classes who have done everything in their power to create discontent in the country by spurious agitation and by clamouring for privileges which they must know in their heart of hearts can only bring power and pelf to their kind and which cannot be of much benefit to the masses of the population, have been pampered and petted in a way which can only disgust those who have an undoubted stake in the country, but who have from a sense of propriety refrained from joining in the clamour. And what is the award for such considerateness and propriety of conduct? In the reform scheme they are quietly ignored and

when the scheme is in operation, complete disappearance from the public life of the country will be the fate of the Zamindars.

The Maharaja of Cossimbazaar regrets that the Zamindars have not realised their responsibility in the matter and have not cared to have their claims urged before the Joint Committee. In this respect the Zamindars have neglected an obvious duty and they cannot complain that others have not fought for their cause, while they themselves have remained indifferent. The Maharaja admits that it is a great pity that the Zamindars of Bengal did not see the necessity or the wisdom of sending any deputation to England to represent their case before the Joint Committee. Expect one or two who happend to be there as members of deputations representing other interests, who chose to put in a word on behalf of the Zamindars, there has been no organised effort to plead their cause in England. There is, of course, no use in regretting what is past. There is yet an opportunity for them to make good the omission. It is just likely that under the rules to be placed before Parliament for its approval, the Government of India may be given some latitude in allocating seats for the different classes and communities on the Councils. If timely representations be made by the Zamindars not only of Bengal but all over the country and the Local Governments be got to place their case before the Government of India, the Zamindars may be able to safeguard their interests better. It all depends upen them hereafter and if they miss this opportunity they will have reduced themselves to a negligible factor in the public polity of the country, in which they have a definite and distinct place. The Maharaja has done well to remind the Bengal Zamindars that they have very often in the past let judgment go against them by default and he exhorts them to rise equal to the occasion for once at least. We trust that the exhortation of the Maharaja will not be in vain and the landed aristocracy throughout the couutry will rally to the call of the Maharaja of Cossimbazaar and so press their claims for better treatment in the reform scheme that the authorities concerned dare not ignore them.

The moderate fly seems to be too wary for the Nationalist spider and the latter's invitation to the former to walk into its parlour has only occasioned a lengthy note from the fly. It is, therefore, unlikely that at Amritsar the Nationalist parlour will be adorned by the moderates. Swami Sharadananda's invitation was, for one thing, not on the approved lines of the spider camp and it was a trifle petulant. The moderates have taken umbrage at the tone of the invitation and while they express their agreement with the Nationalists in most of their political views they have intimated their unwillingness to respond because of the language of their invitation. The Chairman of the Reception Committee has amply apologised for the tone of his letter and we shall not be surprised if some of the moderate leaders agree to shake hands over the incident and embrace one another as soldiers fighting for the same cause. But the reconciliation may have come a little too late for the Amritsar Congress, although some of the undefined and undefinable moderates may by habit and instinct walk into the Congress pandal on the 26th instant. We have carefully read the Moderates' reply to the invitation of Swami Sharadananda and we do not see any substantial ground for refusing the invitation as they seem to be agreed on a great many points. It is very touching to read the expression of sorrow by the moderates for feeling constrained to refuse the invitation. 'We need not say' they assure the Nationalists 'we have considered your suggestion with the care the importance of the subject demands and courtesy due to yourself nor we trust we need assure you as old congressmen to whom severance from that institution could not but be painful that we would not have abstained from the last two sessions and set up an orgnization of our own if we did not deem that the interest of the country dictated such a course of action.' There is a tribe somewhere in Africa, we suppose it is called the Sakalavars, whose language we are told is eminently suited for political harangues for the reason that a man may hold forth in it by the hour without saying anything in particular. The reply of the moderates reminds us of the language of the African tribe, and after reading it, it is difficult to know what exactly the moderate politics are. So far as the real interests of the country are concerned, the political sagacity of the Montagu moderates does not seem to be very much removed from that of the Nationalists who are going to have a high time of it at Amritsar this week. Their abstention from the Congress or their presence in it is not going to affect very much the course of Amritsar politics and we eagerly look forward to an account of the Nationalist doings up there.

The French Chamber is promoting a bill to restrict the employment of foreigners in hotels and this means the elaborate system of German spying will receive a set-back. It is notorious that Germany has been spending millions of money in the employment of spies, especially in France and in England. The main scene of the operations of the German spies is hotels. It is said that German waiters at them do not depend upon the tips of the customers for their livelihood. For anything that is known of them, they are amply paid by their real employers, the German Government, and German waiters form themselves into secret societies for the propagation of their

Kultur and the late war showed how marvellous have been their achievements for the benefit of their Government. Although for years past it has been common knowledge of the British and French Governments that German spies were scattered about these countries, in various professions chiefly as hotel waiters, they have been altogether supine in this matter and no action has been taken to get rid of the spies. That the French Chamber is introducing a bill to restrict the employment of foreigners in hotels shows that the German spy is still abroad and is capable of making mischief. We allude to this matter just to draw the attention of our Government to the likelihood of Bolshevick agents, Germans for choice, being amply financed from Russia or Germany to spread revolutionary ideas in this country and foment what trouble they can. It behoves the Government, therefore, not to be indifferent in this matter, but to take steps to nip the danger in the bud, lest it should grow into alarming proportions.

President Wilson does not seem to be a hero in his own country, which is but natural, and the Senate is mightily discontented with his action in concluding the peace treaty. The Senate is not in a mood to ratify it, though as may be expected the President is firm. Senator Lodge said that the only course open to President Wilson was to withdraw it and resubmit it with suggestions. Senator Knox went one better and introduced a resolution declaring that a state of peace existed between the United States and Germany. We may leave the matter to be decided between President Wilson and his Senators but such an attitude on the part of the Washington Senate may encourage Germany to persist in her truculent attitude which would do no good to the world. We do not suspect German influences at the back of all these and the republican Senators may base their opposition to the treaty on the ground that America pledged to the Monroe doctrine can have nothing to do with the mandate clauses of the treaty. It appears that the League of Nations is not beloved of the Americans except the faddists. We have never concealed our belief that if the Peace Conference had not frittered away time and energy on working out a scheme of Universal Brotherhood which, the world being what it is, cannot materialise for a long while yet, peace with Germany would have been concluded much earlier and German diplomacy would not have had time to devise stratagems to defy the treaty and make another war likely. What with the League of Nations and similar fads, Germany has been given ample time to recover her breath and defeat the purpose of the Allies. And now the doings of the American Senate will merely encourage Germany into becoming more truculent. Whatever the differences the Senators may have with their President, it behoves them as responsible guardians of peace and civilisation, not to throw obstacles in the way of the ratification of the Peace Treaty. President Wilson's task is difficult as it is and the Senate is not well advised in trying to make it more difficult still. We trust that it will take a more practical view of the situation and do nothing to prevent the peace treaty being given effect to.

It is rather unseemly that the Bristish Press should have begun to comment on the evidence given before the Hunter Committee on the Punjab disorders. The Committee is appointed not merely to obtain evidence but also to weigh and find out in the end who all have been to blame. There have been excesses committed in the discharge of their duties by some officers but it will be prejudicing the whole Panjab case, by indulging in criticisms of their conduct, before the Hunter Committee has finished its enquiry and reported. The *Times* and other papers express surprise at the action taken by some of the officers in handling a riotous mob. If they had committed excesses without justification, we dare say the Hunter Committee will not allow them to escape their judgment. But we should point out that the Press both here and in England will do well to refrain from any comment on stray bits of evidence till the full case is before them. The attitude they are now adopting will not only embarrass the Hunter Committee in its findings but will create an unwholesome atmosphere which will not conduce to a detached and an unprejudiced review of the Punjab situation. After all, punishment of those who have been guilty of unjustifiable excesses is of secondary importance but what is of first importance is to find out who have been at the bottom of the mischief, whether the ferment was local or was engineered by foreign influences and with foreign help. It is highly necessary to find out what exactly has been the root cause of the trouble so that the Government may be able to stamp out any lingering germs which may foment trouble again. That seems to us to be more important than to apportion blame among the officers who were faced with a grave situation. It ought not to be supposed that the Hunter Committee's report will have seen the end of the Punjab disorders. It may, like the Rowlatt Act, give a handle to agitators to make more trouble. It will, therefore, be necessary to look to the root cause of the disorders and stamp it out once and for ever.

The *Hindu Message* of Srirangam under the able editorship of Mr. T. K. Balasubramania Aiyer B.A., the proprietor of the Sri Vani Vilas Press, is appearing in a much improved form, with an attractive get-up. The Editor has taken upon himself the by no means easy task of interpreting the world's problems from the Hindu standpoint and the numbers of the Journal before us show the Editor's earnestness to keep true to his mission.

THE
Wednesday Review

WEDNESDAY, 24 DECEMBER, 1919.

THE REFORM BILL IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

IN the serener atmosphere of the House of Lords there was more plain-speaking on the objectionable features of the Reform Bill than in the Lower House where Mr. Montagu's supporters easily outnumbered independent thinkers. We shall not discuss the psychology of the atmosphere in the Commons which had such a soporific effect on the members generally and on those who had given out that they would expose the impracticability of some of the measures of reform embodied in the Bill. In the Lords, however, they were able to take a calmer and a saner view of the changes contemplated in the Bill. We do not know if the debate in the Lords at the Committee stage would result in any appreciable toning down of the objectionable features, as a cryptic telegram by Reuter would lead us to believe, but at any rate the plain language used by some of the noble Lords will convince the unprejudiced observer that the Bill was conceived in great haste and was pushed through Parliament by the easy process of stifling all adverse criticism. To Lord Ampthill is largely due the credit of exposing in no uncertain terms its absurdities. Lord Ampthill was one of those Governors to whom the ill-mannered gibe of Mr. Montagu can in no way apply. He was a successful Governor and his opinion cannot be dismissed as antiquated. Lord Ampthill strongly criticised the several features of the Bill and expressed his fear that the prospects of friction and disorder were very serious. He pointed out that the Bill merely created an Indian oligarchy in the place of British bureaucracy. He condemned diarchy in the Provinces as weakening authority and he did not exaggerate when he said that the diarchy was almost universally condemned. It has been condemned by the majority of the Local Governments and Mr. Montagu could not say anything in answer to their vigorous criticism of it and all that he and his friends could say of it was that no alternative scheme had been put forward. We have more than once exposed the utter fallacy underlying such a contention and it is gratifying to note that responsible British statesmen like Lord Ampthill who have a better knowledge of Indian conditions than Mr. Montagu or any of his friends, are at one with us there. Lord Ampthill spoke the bare truth when he said that the Bill had not received the free consent or deliberation of Parliament nor the agreement of the Indian people. When it is remembered that a much less revolutionary scheme of reform like the Minto-Morley scheme took about seven years to mature, it is preposterous to contend that so revolutionary a Bill as Mr. Montagu's is the outcome of sufficient thought and deliberation. It will not be irrelevant here to allude briefly to the genesis of the Bill. Mr. Montagu visited India in November 1917 and Lord Chelmsford and himself after a hurried tour round the country produce a protentous blue book which as the London *Times* very aptly said contained a lot of dangerous nonsense, in less than six-months' time. Before anybody could have fairly read through the volume a couple of Committees were sprung upon the hapless people of India charged with the duty of making out a case for the reforms adumbrated in the Joint-Report and in the course of another year a Bill is introduced in Parliament, a joint committee is appointed packed with members who had in some way or other pledged themselves to support Mr. Montagu, witnesses are examined before the joint-committee who could only praise in chorus Mr. Montagu's Bill, the closure is applied just when witnessess who had the courage of their convictions wish to give evidence, the Bill is rushed through Parliament and to crown all there is Mr. Bonar Law seriously telling us that the Bill should have received the Royal Assent before the meeting of the Nationalists Congress at Amritsar which has been specially got up for belittling the Bill, under the delusion that if the Bill be not passed before that date the big meeting would be agitated over the delay. This is in brief the genesis and growth of the Bill and no one can honestly say that the changes contemplated in it have been subjected to independent criticism of any kind. To Lord Ampthill, therefore, is due the gratitude of the voiceless millions of India who know nothing either of Mr. Montagu or of his Bill. Whatever may be the merits or the demerits of the Bill there is no disguising the fact that the Bill is a large concession to agitators of sorts who cannot by any stretch of imagination be accepted as the accredited representatives of the people. The Bill is frankly an attempt to placate them and no one who wishes well of the country can ignore the obvious dangers ahead. Lord Sinha in defending the measure was good enough to promise that some of the suggestions made in the course of the debate in the House of Lords would be embodied in the rules which will come up for approval before both the Houses of Parliament. It does not mean much, however, and we do not think that the Bill would undergo any appreciable amendment in the Lords and it will only emerge out of it very much as it left the Lower

House We welcome the debate in the Lords at the Committee stage not in any expectation of the shape of the Bill being amended in any way but as having afforded an opportunity for those who know India better than the apologists of Mr. Montague can claim to to expose its crudities. One encouraging assurance was given by Lord Sinha on the amendment proposed by Lord Middleton. His Lordship in replying to the amendment said that the Bill did not provide for the transference of subjects which would be dealt with by the rules. If it means that the recommendations contained in the Joint Report would not be strictly adhered to and the transference of subjects in the light of experience and with due regard to provincial conditions, will be effected, we may yet hope that the diarchy may be worked with a minimum of friction.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING LIBRARY BOOK MADRAS

THE ASIATIC PROBLEM IN THE COLONIES.

General Smuts who, we are told, is an apostle of self-determination in his own way and who is solicitous of Indian's obtaining it in their own country, is disposed to look upon the emigration of Asiatics into the Colonies as an undesirable invasion. It is no good singling out the General's remarks for comment. He merely represents the attitude of the average Colonial in this matter and not all the hob-nobbing of Indians with the Colonials in the great war has served to soften the prejudice which is conceived by every Colonial against any one who is not of his colour. It is an old story, an exceedingly ugly one, besmirching the fair name of Britain stands which for all that is civilized, cultured and free in the world. The history of Indian immigration into the Colonies is a long tale of woe and misery for the Indians and intolerance and ingratitude on the part of the Colonials. General Smuts speaks now of an Asiatic invasion, but no protest was raised by the Colonials so long as the South African Colonies had to be exploited for the benefit of the white population by Indian labour. So long as they were useful, the colour of the skin of the Indians was not an eye-sore to the Colonials, but the moment they saw that they could get on without Indian labour they began to doubt if the immigration of Indians was not in the nature of a brown-peril. General Smuts referred to a new danger especially in connection with trade and said that steps would have to be taken against it. That explains the whole attitude of the Colonials towards Indians. Now that the Indian immigrant has ceased to be a cooly and aspires to be something better, to be a citizen, all the worst feelings of the Colonials are roused against him. So much so, that even the ordinary rights of citizenship are denied to him.

About two years ago it was fondly hoped that a change for the better had come over the attitude of the Colonials and the glorious achievements of the Indian troops which conquered the German East Africa for the British would emphasise that change. But from all accounts there is a rapid change for the worse and in spite of all the professions of the British statesmen to the contrary and gushing post-prandial orations belauding the achievements of the Indian troops in East Africa, the position of the Indians in the African Colonies is distinctly the worse. Mr. Andrews writes to Mr. Gandhi, "the East African Indian situation is now most critically dangerous, because of the united attempt that is being made by the European Association to close the door against future immigration, and to stop Indian franchise. The chief reason is stated to be that through Indian contact depravity is the result, but advance, under Christian western civilisation. Government Economic Commission's report, recently published, takes the same attitude mentioning specially Indian moral depravity and approving the South African Exclusion Policy." In Fiji the tale is no better. The case of Dr. Manilal, a respectable barrister, who has been sentenced to imprisonment, all for the offence of putting up an office building on a piece of land scheduled as unlicensed, will show to what humiliation the Indian is put in Fiji, and yet we are seriously asked to compensate the planters and others there in the event of the Indian indenture labour ceasing to be in force on the first of January next. If, at all, anybody is entitled to compensation it is the Indian and the demand of compensation for the estate-owners is preposterous to a degree. We have no faith in commissions and committees on which Indian representatives may or may not sit, solving the Asiatic problem in the Colonies. We have had commissions and compromises before, but the position of the Indians has not been bettered and a most deserving class of His Majesty's subjects are consigned to a position of helots. If the Imperial Government should deserve its title, it ought to put its foot down upon the injustices of sorts to which Indians have been subjected all these long years. There is no use in putting forth the plea that the Colonies being self-governing parts of the Empire there ought to be no interference by the Imperial Government in their domestic arrangements. May we ask if Britain would coolly look upon the ill-treatment of an Englishman in a foreign country on a similar ground? Will not the whole force of the Empire be put in operation to bring the offending country to its senses? Should not the same spirit of justice and fair play animate the Imperial Government in protecting the Indian from oppression and humiliation?

RULERS OF INDIA.

H. H. SIR SHAHU CHHATRAPATI MAHARAJ MAHARAJA OF KOLHAPUR.

Kolhapur occupies a very high rank among Native States as the Ruler is the direct descendant of Shivaji the Great, the founder of the Maratha Empire, and bears the distinctive and honorific title of "Chhatrapati Maharaj". The Rajas of Kolhapur, who are Kshatriyas by caste, are the representatives of the Junior Branch of the family of Shivaji. After the death in 1700 of Rajaram (Shivaji's younger son, who was the head of the Maratha power during the captivity of his nephew Shahu in the Moghul camp) his widow Tarabai placed her son Shivaji on the Gadi. In 1707 A. D. Shahu, the rightful heir was released from the captivity of the Moghuls and came to Satara to claim the Mahratta Raj. After a struggle Shahu was successful and fixed his capital at Satara. Shivaji, with his ambitious mother, repaired to Kolhapur and established a separate principality for himself. He died in 1712 and was succeeded by Sambhaji, son of Rajaram's younger widow. The Kolhapur family supported by Ramchandra Pant Amatya and other powerful Chiefs, endeavoured hard to retain its supremacy among the Marathas, but they were compelled to yield precedence to Shahu, who, by the treaty of 1731, recognized Kolhapur as an independent State.

On the death of Sambhaji in 1760 the direct descendants of Shivaji became extinct. A member of the Bhonsale family was adopted as his successor under the name of Shivaji II. and the Dowager Rani Jijabai conducted the administration during the minority of her adopted son. After her death in 1772 A. D. the young Raja was for a long while engaged in war with other States, particularly wlth the Patwardhans, the Sawant and the Nipanikar: and moreover his Government was weakened by internal factions. On several occasions during these struggles the British Government were requested to interfere, but they declined. In 1811 during a war between the Nipanikar and Kolhapur, when the British Resident at Poona was engaged in the settlement of the Southern Maratha Country a peace was negotiated between the contending parties, and the Raja of Kolhapur concluded a treaty of friendship with the British Government. Shivaji II died in 1812 and was succeeded by Sambhaji II or Abasaheb (1812 to 1821). He was followed by Sahaji or Bawasaheb (1821—1838). On his death in 1838 a Council of Regency was formed to govern the State during the minority of his successor Shivaji III or Babasaheb; but the members of the Council fell out and the British Government appointed a minister of its own selection in 1844.

It was only after this that Kolhapur enjoyed some peace and happiness. It remained as a faithful ally to the British Government during the critical times of the Mutiny in 1857. A Treaty whereby the Maharaja of Kolhapur agreed to be guided by the advice of the Paramount Power in all important matters, was concluded with the British Government in 1862, when the administration of the State was handed over to its Ruler Shivaji III who died shortly after in 1866. He was succeeded by Rajaram who died at Florence in 1870 during his tour in Europe. His widow adopted Shivaji IV who also did not live long. He died in 1884 at Ahmednagar and was succeeded by adoption, by the present Maharaja H. H. Colonel Sir Shahu Chhatrapati Maharaj.

The Maharaja was installed on the Gadi with full powers except in regard to capital punishment on the 2nd April 1894 by His Excellency Lord Harris, the then Governor of Bombay. The restriction in Criminal powers requiring the sanction of the Bombay Government to sentences of death was removed in 1895, and in the same year the title of G. C. S. I. was conferred on His Highness by Her late Majesty the Queen Empress. In 1900 His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India conferred upon His Highness the title of "Maharaja" as a hereditary distinction. In the year 1902 His Highness was invited to England, on the occasion of the Coronation of His late Majesty Edward VII, King-Emperor. During His Highness's sojourn in England the University of Cambridge conferred upon him the honorary degree of LL.D. and the Royal Agricultural Society of England marked their appreciation of Highness's keen interest in agriculture, by making him an honorary member of their Society. The high distinction of G. C. V. O. was conferred upon him at Delhi in 1903 and that of G. C. I. E. was conferred by H. M. the King-Emperor George V, on the occasion of the Coronation Darbar at Delhi in 1911. The year 1903 was also marked with the appreciation by Government of His Highness's administration by their withdrawal from the exercise of Residuary Criminal Jurisdiction in the feudatory Jahagirs reserved by Government of Bombay by Article 8 of the Articles of Agreement of 1862.

The Military Force of the State consits of two separate establishments:— (1) the Kolhapur Infantry officered by two Europeans and 553 storng and (2) the Cavalry known as the Red Coated Risala or His Highness's Body Guard with 156 horsemen under the command of a State officer designated Risalder Major. There are 57 guns in all of which only ten are mounted and used for purposes of salute.

In 1917-18 the net receipts exclusive of alienations, debts, deposits &c, amounted to Rs. 31,04,610 while the net expenditure amounted to Rs. 45,85,768, the excess in expenditure being due to special circumstances during the year such as adjustment of accounts, the marriage of Shri Yuvaraj Maharaja etc., Inclusive of its Feudatory

States. The area of the Kolhapur State is 8217.1 square miles, comprising 1079 villages with a population of 8,33,441 according to the Census of 1911. The Capital town is Kolhapur, originally called Karawir with a population of 45000.

The Maharaja of Kolhapur is entitled to a salute of 19 guns and holds a patent or sanad of adoption. The present Maharaja's salute was increased by two guns on the 1st of January 1909 as a personal honour, in recognition of His Highness's Loyalty to the British Throne.

The Kolhapur State under the regime of the present Maharaja, far from adding to the cares and anxieties of the British Raj, is being administered with great success; its people are contented and the Maharaja has shown by his acts that he is worthy of the trust reposed in him. He has proved an intelligent and upright Ruler, fully alive to the duties of his position. There is probably no State in India where the Ruler and the ruled are on more satisfactory terms, or in which the great principle, upon which His Highness has insisted, that Government should be for the happiness of the governed, received a greater measure of practical recognition. He feels genuine interest in the real welfare of the masses whose cause he always fearlessly advocates.

There is, perhaps, no better test of the soundness of an administration than its ability to pass, without discredit, through a period of exceptional difficulty. The Kolhapur State has many times, during the present Maharaja's reign, encountered such trials and has each time surmounted them successfully. Whenever such Providential calamities occurred, so effectual were the measures taken by His Highness's direction that his Minister, whose energy and administrative capacity are of the first order, has been able to report to him that during such periods the death rate did not rise above the normal, and that there were no deaths due to starvation. But this is not all. Advantage is taken of the opportunity thus offered, to set on foot a system of relief works, under which the water supply available for the use of His Highness's subjects has been permanently improved, with the result that it has largely diminished the danger to be apprehended from future periods of scarcity.

His Highness the Maharaja has shown himself mindful of the best interests of the people committed to his charge. Good progress has been made with the important work of Revenue Settlement, which was only half completed when His Highness succeeded. New roads have been constructed, hospitals and dispensaries have been opened. Attention has been paid to the improvement of the breed of cattle. And last, but not least, the State has liberally encouraged educational institutions.

The relations of the Kolhapur Darbar with the Government of India have always been specially cordial. The Kolhapur State upon more than one occasion in its subsequent history has given evidence of its deep loyalty and attachment to the Government and the Crown and has been of great help to Government in rooting out sedition.

Since His Highness's installation on the Gadi, twenty-four years ago, he has borne a high character as a Ruler, and has displayed many qualities which deserve our sincere admiration. Amongst these may be mentioned more specially the generosity which he has shown to all useful public institutions, of which whether within the limits of his State or without them he has been a most liberal supporter. His Highness apart from being a Ruler of high character, is a kind and thoughtful host, whose hospitality the officials have many times enjoyed.

In other respects the administration of Kolhapur under the present Maharaja has been most creditable to those concerned in it. The finances of the State, the condition of which must at one time have occasioned His Highness some uneasiness have been placed on a sound basis. Crime and outlawry have been put down and His Highness personally has bestowed much attention upon the wise project for reclaiming the criminal tribes. Courts of Justice have been established not only at the Capital, but throughout the State, and are working under well considered arrangements and rules.

His Highnesss had made primary education free and compulsory all over the State. He is a staunch supporter of the backward classes and has established hostels to encourage education among them and founded scholarships and made money grants. He takes keen interest in the affairs of untouchables (Mhars, Mangs and other similar tribes.) A separate Boarding institution has been established for them and they have been engaged in His Highness's Khsagi Department in suitable posts. This policy His Highness has adopted with a view to raising them. The Jains, the Mahrattas, the Lingayats, the Mahomedens, the Goldsmiths, the Tailors, the Mahars, the Shoemakers have all been provided with Boarding Houses. His Highness is a supporter of the Arya Samaj and supports all systems of medicine. Hospitals have been established all over the State.

The Maharaja is fond of ancient modes of Shikars. Hawking, Cheeta-hunt, pig-sticking, elephant-fight (for which a special arena has been put up) and tiger-hunt are his favourite games. He is an excellent rider and made a record ride to Mahabaleshwar, a distance of 114 miles, in eight hours.

The Maharaja has furnished more than 2000 recruits for the war. He has liberally subscribed to different war funds, furnished more than half of the Kolhapur contingent and sent them over to the western Front. His Highness takes keen interest in general public affairs and is a strong

supporter of communal representation. His opinion is that the untouchables and all backward classes must be represented on the Government under the Montagu-Chelmsford Scheme till they are sufficiently educated to hold their own against the advanced classes.

In his private life His Highness the Maharaja is very simple. He is amiable, courteous and is dearly loved by all those who come in contact with him. He hates all show and conventionality.

The Maharaja has one son, Rajaram Maharaja, his heir-apparent. Shivaji Maharaja, his second son, died of an accident while pigsticking on 12th June 1918. His Highness has one daughter who has been married to H. H. the Maharaja of Dewas Senior, and is the mother of a son, the heir-apparent of the Dewas Raj.

WORLD TREMORS.

By 'Workman.'

On April 4th 1903 an Earthquake occurred in Northern India which considerably shook Peliti's Grand Hotel at Simla. The residents were glad to camp out in the open that night; while tremors continued for many days, rendering it doubtfu whether to sit tight at our meals, or seek the open, with as little loss of dignity as conveniently possible,—but by the speediest mode of exit.;

Each guest and the waiters, while taking careful note of the shivering mass of the walls and roof, yet awaited, the move of the most timid before giving way to an impulse to fly, which might end in a general stampede. There was however, no move or stampede after the first night; but the sensation of dining with the house rocking, is not easily forgotten, as it was freely remarked that such tremors are the fore-runers of a great return wave and shock.

No return shock was experienced, and the croakers, and scientists were wrong.

Earthquake shocks and tremors are familiar to us by their effects; but we do not often know the primary causes of them. The man in the street considers they have something to do with the Stars and Planets interfering with the orderly progress of an isolated Earth, which ought properly speaking to have been made the Hub of the Universe, or fixed in Space; with the other celestial bodies buzzing around. but keeping a respectful distance!

Perhaps this is what any Nation thinks in respect of all the others; with a suppressed or published consciousness that it is, or ought to be, 'supreme above all!'

Anyhow we have it in evidence that the Great War owed its origin to this thought; which the man in the street now sees was right enough in theory but wrong in practice. As a mere competition for excellence all should have been allowed a fair start in the race.

Great Wars have their aftermath of prolonged Tremors. It is not easy for us to keep a dignified balance, when like the practised golfer we make the attempt of a grand stroke, 'Keeping the Eye on the Ball', while corkscrewing our body for the 'drive', yet never losing the right direction, though the hole we are making for is clean out of the sight.

Every Scientist is doing his best at his shop to still the Tremors agitating Humanity, while pointing out 'the way' not for interfering with the Almighty's business, but by use of the wits with which Humanity has been sufficiently endowed to play games fair and square, and allow all an even chance of winning.

But the ways the different Scientists are going about it are not without some elements of Humour accompanying them.

The Cause of a Big War is not always plain, but the way to gather up the fragments is less obscure.

A large Majority of the events that determine policy and force action are Mistakes, our own or somebody else's, or Accidents. Perhaps the whole 'World Policy' for satisfying the needs of Humanity before the War was wrong; and till remedied nothing we do will prevent future Wars. If so, why is there delay in the Scientists getting together at the Head Quarters of the League of Nations, and telling the world THE TRUTH about it all!

The delay is apparently traceable to the inertia, or the momentum, of old practices under the previous System. Those that hopped to lead, without being sure of a willing following, found they had made a mistake.

Thus the Tremors we are feeling demonstrate the effect of New Propaganda conflicting with old progress to date. It only wanted a slight adjustment ef the World's Econmic System and Machinery for working it, to remove frictions and undue strains and stresses. But the world to date has wanted power without responsibility, and has taken no trouble to fix it, or to define the objects with which power should be exercised in the interest of the entire mass of Humanity, and who should direct it. Then is it much to be wondered that destructive conflict continually arises. Rather should we marvel that wars ever cease.

At the moment, a considerable Tremor is caused by the Bolshevic militarism of the remnants of the old Imperial Russian Army under the lead and propaganda of Lenin and Trotsky.

Accident thrust a policy on the distintegrated mass, and a propaganda was essential to keep it together. Instead of the mass dissolving itself to the Villages and other Centres of its origin, and establishing

Local Government, what was easier than to allure it to predatory enterprises, with the promise of loot and freedom from every obligation under any organised system of Civilisation!

The Grand Mufti of Egypt in his Fetwa on Bolshevism appearing in *Justice* of Oct 15 last, states that it is an 'Ancient Way'; being the Creed of a Persian Hypocrite from Fassa named Zoroaster, improvised during the Era of the Magians, and spread later by Mazdaq of Mazria. He taught Communism of property and persons especially women ; giving license to the passions. He states that the case continued terrible till the time of Koshroes, who put an end to the false Doctrine and re-confirmed the Creed of the Magians. The Bolshevists are, he says, the Apostates who follow no revealed Religion, and do not recognise any order of Society.

From this it is surmised that the Persian King Gustasp had need of a Propaganda to meet the Political situation, and elevated Zoroaster to a position of Primate, to assure himself of a popular following. But who formulated the Propaganda?

A hypocrite is one who feigns to be what he is not. He is either driven to it by circumstances over which he has no control, or is induced to depart from his professed principles for some object considered to justify the exception to a Rule.

Occasions almost continually occur when people are called on to co-operate under 'Systems', that really do not suit the details of the work on which they are engaged. Till the systems are improved they must do the best they can, and keep smiling, —or run the risk of being 'cast out'.

The combine of the Military and Priestly Functions, either in co-operation of Castes, the Dualism of Priest and King, or when both Functions are assumed by an Emperor, is, we well know, 'an Ancient Way'. It no doubt has served its purpose at times ; but as a civilising working agency and control it is incomplete, without the bed rock of the Sudra–the producer, and Vaisya, the Trader, or distributor of Food and commodities to the world of Consumers.

The Propaganda of the Bolshevists comes to us at first hand on their own authority. The Creed is critically reviewed in the *Times* weekly edition of October 24th. It needs only to be carefully perused to substantiate all that the Grand Mufti Mahomed Bekheet has said about it.

Without any title to the land, the Bolshevic forces are trying to establish it by forcible possession. Our Prime Minister, Mr. Lloyed George in his speech reported from London Nov 17 said, Kolchak and Denikin were fighting for a re-united Russia, whereas Esthonia, Latvia and Lithuania were fighting for independence, while other great anti-Bolshevik forces were fighting for Local independent Nationality.

The difficulty of the Prime Minister may be easily imagined,in the effort to control the Political situation, with any number of Scientists, Military, Economic, Priestly, and Tax payers, all tugging at his coat tails to do their will ; while none of them propose a Propaganda for the League of Nations, or reckon on what may develop outside the country to disturb their own propaganda.

Despotism in any form can only thrive on an aggressive Propaganda. The easiest way to finance it is out of the pockets or possessions of sombody else. The Kaiser is said to have plotted the downfall of the Russian Emperor. The Bolshevics treated the Imperial family with unheard of brutality. The entire military system of Germany and Russia collapsed. Nothing but the moderation of the Allies saved Germany from extinction at the hands of its own disillusioned masses. The duty of the Nations of Europe now is clearly to put a stop to the disorders in Russia ; but independence of Local Governments anywhere is impossible till they can refer to the League of Nations at least of Europe–for support and protection from attack. Meanwhile, it is absurd for Lenin and Trotsky to be left in possession of Europe with an unholy Propaganda, to meddle with every State in the World.

But as regards ourselves, as long as present conditions continue we need to look further than the confines of our own borders for the origin of disturbances and unrest the treatment of which by the Experts and Local Government may afford matter for differences of Opinion amongst those not responsible for the peace and protection of the Provinces concerned but their speeches are wholly parochial.

The tremors both before and after the Convulsion caused by the deliberate will of Germany and Austria are not likely to suddenly cease with the disappearance of three Emperors.

The powers that throve under their regime are not extinct. The Bolshevics are an evidence of the fact and an attempt at establishing a Central World Government founded on Military Despotism with a backing of an immoral Propaganda that wouldrender all Co-operative work and Government impossible.

Who are Lenin and Trotsky that they pose superior to the accumulated wisdom of the world Scientists of all denominations? They have been elevated to a lead by the accident of the War and the exhaustion of the Allies, which accounts for the war not being carried to its logical and workmanlike conclusions. They are being made use of by the Military element in Germany hoping for a revival of the Empire by encouraging the unrest and World Tremors. Hypocrisy may be expected to rule Teutonic Councils with this secret object in view and to call for world wide precautions to circumvent it.

The plea of necessity for Economic expansion in Germany on account of increase of population does not stand good even in theory. For over-Centralisation of Economic development on any given area of Land is sufficient in itself to cause the attraction to it of an abnormally large population.

The design of expansion by peaceful penetration with aggressive Militarism behind it to guarantee profits could be pursued as long as the world could be hypnotised by Hypocrisy. But the Truth was bound to come out at last and to require drastic action.

It is now realised that the supplies of Raw Materials on which the Economic expansion depended could only be secured by the good will of the world. That for profits to be guaranteed with least Army expenditure, surprize attacks must form a holy chapter in the manual of Military Strategy not divulged to the trusting world till the moment of action but that the other Nations seem to object to the principle.

No wonder with this example and its consequences, Propaganda like that of the Bolsheviks has got an innings and under the hypocritical pretence of a world Reform of Systems a Reign of Terror has been set up from which the masses are longing to be freed.

It is not clear why the Unitad States is in such a hurry to escape responsibility for the success of the League of Nations; the starting of work by it being the essential thing to help stop the Civil war in Russia.

REVIEWS.

UNCENSORED CELEBRITIES.

Uncensored Celebrities: By E. T. Raymond (T. Fisher Unwin London).

The book is a collection of studies of thirty-three prominent men of the day. Mr. Raymond has evidently a peculiar knowledge of the men whom he describes, and he writes too with a pithiness and wit and with a hapyy turn of phrase that make most excellent reading. He is somewhat of a pharse-monger after the manner of Mr. G. K. Chesterton but he has a self-restraint which the other lacks, and he is able to realise as Mr. Chesterton does not, that the epigram is made for the book, not the book for the epigram.

Quotation is irresistible. Of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Webb, those demi-gods of the bureaucratic system he says;

Here, if anywhere, is the perfect marriage: two minds with but a single set of thoughts, two typewriters that click as one.'

His estimate of Mr. Churchill is shrewd; "his infallibility is one of his chief weaknesses. Taking all knowledge for his province, he cannot help being superficial, but then every statesman is necessarily that and it must be said for Mr. Churchill that he will learn more of a subject in six months than most politicians do in six years. Unfortunately he will assume that as soon as he is bored with learning, there is nothing more to learn. Mr Balfour's attitude towards democracy is accurately summed up; "for the mass of men he seems to feel there is no possibility of advance; the democratic flood would not fructify the deserts, but only obliterate the oases. There is not enough culture to go round, why lose what we have in a vain attempt to give everyone his share."

The book is in a way sad reading. Here are thirty-three of the most eminent men of the day, and not a hero among them. It is depressing too to find that the one man, Mr. Samuel Gompers of whom Mr Raymond has nothing to say in disparagement, is a foreigner. Perhaps, it is not that he excels. The more probable explanation is that Mr. Raymond knows less of him than of the rest. We do not mean to suggest that Mr. Raymond is a caviller. He is a keen critic, but a just one, and his justice is untempered by mercy. The one blot on the book is the essay on Lord Derby with its somewhat offensive allusions to the personal appearance of the noble earl.

One naturally turns first of all to the study of Mr. Lloyd George, and an excellent study it is. It is amazing now to remember that only seven years ago the mere mention of Mr. Lloyd George's name was sufficient to raise a curse in many quarters and a laugh in all. At the time when Mr. George was launching his compulsory insurance scheme with its ludicrous medical appendages and when he was indulging, in his Limehouse speeches in cheap and nasty claptrap on the subject of dukes and landlords, the poorest comedian had but to breathe the magic words 'Lloyd George' to raise a laugh from the entire house and it was a curious fact that labour and the proletariat whom Mr. George professed to foster, would laugh as heartily as the offending landlord and employer. Typical of the attitude of the time was the story that was then widely told of the man who rescued another from drowning. Asked to describe the deed he said; "I saw a man floating face downwards on the water; I swam to him, turned him over to see if he was Lloyd George and as he was not I brought him ashore." It was a poor jest, but its wide popularity was a real indication of the estimation in which Mr. Lloyd George was then held.

Seven years have passed and to day Mr. George is the most powerful man in Great Britain. There

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is no one in the world who wishes to laugh at him and no one but a German or a conscientious objector, who wishes to curse him. To live down hatred is a comparatively easy matter, but how has he been able to live down ridicule. The answer lies in the fact that in a fighting time he was essentially the fighter. "Words are for him only missiles and munitions, better or worse; the fight is the main thing." He is gifted too with an eloquence "simple but yet enormousely effective" and he alone of all men was able to thrill the whole country. He was assisted by a teremendous energy, a supreme self-confidence, and a very real gift for negotiation. It may be doubted if he would ever have risen in normal times to the height of a great statesman-great politician he always was. In fact he was too great a politician to be a good statesman and he exhibited many symptoms of being an opportunist and nothing more. But when his deeper convictions were stirred and his deeper emotions roused by the great event of the war, the predominant opportunism sank, the underlying earnestness and zeal took first place and the man became what we now know him to be half a hero. But he is a man whose greatness demands a great crisis and it is with some anxiety that his admirers must watch for his success in the future.

To quote once more from Mr Raymond: "he (Mr. Lloyd George) belongs essentially to the empirical school of statesmanship. He does not look "before and after" but only about him. He stands in small awe of precedent, principle and doctrine; he is always readier to experiment than to think. Intensely interested in the things of the moment, in himself and the people he likes, in the "causes" which appeal to him in his varying moods, no man has less sense of the continuity of human things. For him the present tick of the clock has all the dignity of the eternal." There is sufficient truth in this estimate of Mr. Lloyd George to make his future somewhat problematical. In the great days of reconstruction now upon us how will such a man fare?

Equally good in construction and analytical skill are the studies of Sir Edward Carson, Viscount Grey, Mr. Bottomley and many others; but to quote from them fragmentally would be to do injustice to the author, for each study is a gem in its way and must be viewed in its entirety to be apprecieted at it proper value. The book is one not only to be read but to be possessed.

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FROM MILL-BOY TO MINISTER.

From Mill-Boy to Minister: The Life of the Right Hon. J. R. Clynes, M. P. by Edward George: Fisher Unwin, London.

A Six-penny dictionary, a second hand one at that, was the making of a Cabinet Minister and the story is told engrossingly by Mr. Edward George. In a small compass he tells the life-story of the Mill-Boy Clynes, who by dint of perseverance and character rose to be a Cabinet Minister and now controls the food-supply of the whole British Empire. The career of Mr. Clynes will fit into any of Smiles' biographies of Self-made men, with this difference that the average self-made man generally started with the end in view that he would one day be somebody or something and almost invariably became that body or that thing. But the Mill-boy Clynes did not set out in life with any such purpose. If he picked up the rudiments of knowledge and learned to understand things for himself, it was not because he felt that knowledge was power or something like that in the strain of the copy-book maxims. He learnt to read and to understand books, primarily to satisfy three old men with whom he came in close intimacy at the start and who had an intense desire to hear whatever would be read to them; that was the start. It took Clynes up from stage to stage till he is now in the Inner Councils of the Empire. He was one of seven children at an Oldham slum, where his father had to run a numerous family, on 24 shillings a week. Before he was twelve, his schooling had ended and the last day of it witnessed a brief but decisive struggle between the School-Master and the boy. 'John Robert Clynes' was the exclamation of the priest, which began the battle. "I have failed utterly to make a scholar of ye, but it is my solemn duty to try once more to make a man of ye". According to the priest school-master the secret of making a man of any of his boys was to lay heavily the rod on the back of the hapless victim. Before the remedy could be put into operation Clynes had cleared the school house at a bound and turned his back for ever on it. Henceforth the world was his school and experience, more often bitter than not, was the teacher. Considering what he has become since, nobody will feel a regret that the boy was thrown on the wide world at so early an age, to swim or sink. But he has swum and the experience of the hard swim is now before the world and we should be grateful to Mr. George for telling us how that swim has been accomplished.

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PERIODICALS REVIEWED.

THE BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE.

The November number of the *Blackwood's Magazine* is chiefly notable for the topical paragraphs dealt with under the heading of 'Musings without Method'; the railway strike, the folly of Mr. Thomas followed by the question who is behind him, give us a fair idea of the genesis of the railway strike and of the railway men's evil genius, 'Mr. Thomas. The author of the musings is emphatic in the opinion 'that it is impossible to find the smallest excuse for the infamy of the railway strike. The men had no grievance. They were well paid; they were in full enjoyment of all the blessings of nationalisation which guard the delicate ecstatic souls who work with their hands from the suspicion of wage-slavery. Their wages were assured them until next March and had they been dissatisfied they had six clear months in which to discuss the question of terms. As they had no excuse to strike so they employed the basest method. They chose the lightning strike to expose to the world not their grievances, but what they believe to be their power and thus they ranked themselves at once with the professors of anarchy with their comrades Lenin and Trostsky.' It is pretty frank and Mr. Thomas is denounced with equal vigour. Samuel Butler is discussed at some length, with the memoir of him published by Messrs. Macmillan for the text. He is called an uncomfortable man and the writer tries to show by quoting several incidents in his life that he was uncomfortable. His character is summed up thus:—

The explanation of Butler's character is that he was an intensely vain man, who had missed the world's appreciation. He admits to Miss Savage that he liked flattery even when he saw through it and flattery he wanted and too often missed. It was this love of flattery which made him depend, for the most part, upon the society of his inferiors. There is far too much in Mr. Jones's Memoir about a servant, called Alfred, who seems to have governed all Butler's uprisings and downsittings. For those of his contemporaries whom he might have met upon equal terms, he entertained a profound contempt. What he seems to have asked for in his associates was a ready agreement with his views, a quick admiration of his works. There is a kind of pathos in Mr. Jones's universal acquiescence. More than once, when Butler asked what he thought of his prose or his music, he replied, "Of course I liked it." Of course he did. Otherwise. he could not have remained Butler's friend for a week. And to be a friend of Butler, a man must have put a whole-hearted ungrudging faith in many strange creeds. He must have believed that Blake, Dante, and Virgil, and Tennyson, were outside the pale of discussion. He must have believed that the Darwins were malign and wicked men. He must have harboured no doubt that a woman wrote the 'Odyssey.' These are some of the articles of faith to which every friend of Butler's was asked to subscribe, and it is not surprising that he had to depend upon the kindness of few.

THE MODERN REVIEW.

The *Modern Review* for December is as usual full of good things. We would specially commend to the reader Mr. Battachary's little article 'How to serve our village'. He does not belive there is much force in the contention that the neglected condition of our villages is due to lack of money. He rightly says if anybody wants to serve his village let him first take his residence in a corner of the village. That is surely the first step and that step is seldom taken. Mr. Battacharya illustrates his point of view by a parable.

A 'Hindu' asks himself the question if Brahmos can call themselves Hindus and porceeds to answer it at much length. 'The Brahmo is still a Hindu' says the writer 'for he does not subscribe to any particular creed', and belongs to a special ethnic group, inherits a distinct type of culture, and is the product of a definite historic evolution. In all these respects, he has a peculiarity which marks him off from the followers of the other religions of the world, and endows him with a distinct personality. His religious individuality will thus be preserved by a kind of negative process which is known in logic as division by dichotomy. He is not a Mahomedan, with whom he shares certain ethnic and linguistic characteristics, because he has no creed, however short; he is not a Buddhist, with whom he possesses strong cultural, but neither linguistic nor racial affinity (except with a small number of Indian Buddhists), for the same reason he is not a Christan, with whom he is racially but not culturally or linguistically allied, also for the same reason. But to say this is not to suggest that such a Hindu will be distinguished by negative characteristics merely, he will have a positive culture, tradition and racial inheritance to call his own, and he will moreover have the glorious privilege, denied to the adherent of every other religion of being absolutely unfettered by any creed in his intellectual and spiritual development.

Among other articles of interest are the Sugar problem by Professor Kantilal Pandya, A word on historical criticism in India by Professor B. C. Mazumdar and an illstrated article on swimming.

THE OCCULT REVIEW.

In his notes of the month for December the Editor deals largely with Mrs. Tweedale's psychic reminiscences. Mrs. Tweedale had a pretty long experience of spirit phenomena and leading incidents are referred to in the notes. Under the

heading 'Through the ivory gate' Irne Hay gives a large number of dream experiences and from what he says the common belief that dreams prognasticate the contraries is not borne out. We give here four tipical dreams from the many which she relates :—

The dreamer—English—dreamed of some sacred Indian white bulls with silver chains round their necks. He was unexpectedly offered the secretaryship to a certain philosophical society whose headquarters were in India.

The dreamer dreamed of five friends, who afterwards got married, as being dressed in rose-colour and surrounded by pink roses.

The same dreamer dreamed of a certain lady as wearing artificial pink roses and a soiled pink dress. This lady married unexpectedly. The marriage proved to have been entirely for money, and turned out exceptionally badly.

On two occasions before receiving a legacy the dreamer dreamed of living Egyptian scarabs to the number of pounds inherited.

Perhaps the best article in the mumber is that 'On Stellar influenses' by Leslie keene. He shows by sound reasonings that astrology is not to be lightly ignored as unscientific. He shows that the star exerts decisive influence on the distiny of men. To the sceptic Mr. Keene says.

Now of what practical use says the sceptic, may this birth may be? Well if the influences were stationary it would certainly have but a limited use. Obvioul,y, however, this is not so. From the moment of birth all the planets move away in their appointed orbits: a new sign gradually rises on the ascendant and a host of new relationships come into being year by year. This—the so—called progressed horoscope with its yearly and monthly changes—*is the native's opportunity.* Now we have arrived at the practical test of this ancient and stupendous system. It is open to every one to take two, twenty of fifty maps examining particularly those of relatives and friends; to take note of every single planetary influence upon the life or character and then to ask himself whether in all seriousness the long arm coincidence could be held responsible for the correspondences revealed. One thing at least must be conceded: that no one after such examination, has ever proved the falsity of the method; and few are able to resist the conclusion that here is a chart of character and destiny the universal study of which would revolutionize the thought of mankind. A valuable aid to this study is afforded by a little book of 1,000 horoscopes published at the office of Modern Astrology, containing all sorts of useful material to work upon, including marked cases of disease, abnormal characteristics, etc. (Among the maps of notable people especially interesting by way of contrast are those of Gladstone and Disraeli.)

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NATIVE STATES.

Investiture of the Thakore Palitana.

Bahadoorsinhji Thakore Saheb of Palitana was invested with ruling powers by Mr. Maconichie, Agent to His Excellency the Governor in Kathiawar, before a brilliant gathering recently. Mr. Maconochie referred to the Thakore Saheb's long ministry under the care of Mr. and Mrs. Tudor Owen, reminding him at the same time of the part he had taken in the greater durbar in 1911 in personal attendance on Their Majesties. Mr. Maconochie pointed out that the Thakore Saheb took over a well-ordered State freed during his minority from a heavy burden of debt and with a resonable cash balance. With loyal and contented cultivators the Thakore Saheb would find no difficulty in meeting the growing needs of the people. Mr. Maconochie said that he trusted the Thakore Saheb would govern his people with wisdom and justice, and concluded by wishing prosperity and happiness in the coming years.

In reply the Thakore Saheb asked the Agent to convey to His Excellency the governor his hearty thanks and to assure him that he was fully alive to his duties and responsibilities as a ruler. He could never sufficiently thank Mr. and Mrs. Owen, in whose charge he was ever since a boy. He then referred to the great administrative ability of Mr. Tudor Owen and the time he had spent for the welfare of the State. The welfare of the State would to his (the Thakore Saheb's) primary consideration and he would endeavour to discharge his duty in a manner satisfactory to all concerned.

The ceremony of presenting poshakh and nazranas to the Thakore Saheb of Palitana by the Ruling Princes and representatives of other States and by those of the Jain community who have come down from distant parts of India was gone through on the following day. In an address given by the jains, the high merits of the Thakore Saheb were referred to and the measures adopted for protecting their interest and the facility afforded them by the State on the hills of Shetrunja were eulogised inasmuch as the place attracts thousands of pilgrims from all parts of India. *Times of India.*

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The Dewas state and the war.

In the course of a recent speech at the gathering in the Dewa state in honor of Sir Oswald Bosanquet His Highness the Maharaja of Dhar said :—

The great war has ended gloriously for the Empire and Peace has been ushered in. Our anxieties are not however quite at an end. The problems of peace and of the reconstruction that has to follow it, are looming very large before the Empire. The Indian Rulers have, for themselves and on behalf of their peoples to take their proper share in the solution of these. They are regarded as 'partners' in Empire and pillars of the Imperial

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edifice and as such their representative has been given a seat of equality among the nations of the World. Can they ever be too grateful, for this wise and statesmanlike step on the part of His Majesty's Government. But what would their graitude be worth if they fail to prove themselves worthy of the position thus accorded to them.

So far as I am concerned I sincerely believe that the only way of proving this is by making up my mind to be a strictly constitutional ruler and by admitting without unnecessary delay, my subject to a substantial share in the direction of public affairs. This belief on my part is not of recent growth for, many years I have held the view that the forms of Government obtaining among the British peoples were the best calculated to achieve the highest moral and material progress of a community and I have been trying during the past eight years to prepare the ground among my people for putting this view into practice, sooner or later.

The object throughout has been to train the people for self-government. All these years I have been trying to make my ground sure, both with myself and the public. Now that the War is over and has taught us its great lessons. I feel that I would be false to myself and false to the position that has been marked out of Indian Rulers in the scheme of the Empire, if I did not firmly tread on the path, and which after all is the right one, that I had chalked out for myself. I therefore decide to announce to the public in your auspicious presence that I will in the next few months grant my people a substantial voice in the internal administration of the State. May God help me in this resolve of mine.

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The Mysore legislative Council.

The sanction of His Highness the Maharaja to the proposal to increase the Legislative Council by eight members, has been welcomed by all public-spirited men in the State, as another step in the closer association of the people in the Government of the country. Membership of the Legislative Council is looked upon as a great honour and the enlargement of the Council will afford more districts an opportunity of sending a member directly to represent them in this important part of the Administration of the State. Up to the present the districts have been placed in couples and one man represented a group. The result was that several districts never succeeded in having their own representative on the Council. The Government of Mysore has just issued rules governing these elections. The candidates eligible for election are: any person who holds lands in the district for which he pays an annual assessment of Rs. 100. and possesses a sufficient knowledge of English to be able to take part in the proceedings of the Council; a graduate of any Indian or English university of not less than ten years' standing, who has been resident in the district for at least three years previous to election. It is definitely declared that women, and other persons, such as those of unsound mind, undischarged bankrupts, etc., shall not be eligible. This is interesting, in view of the fact that just now so much is being made of the fitness of Indian women to take their part in every branch of political life. But Mysore is evidently not yet awake to the fact, though there are four or five ladies in the State who are quite capable of making themselves heard on important matters connected with the State. The voters are those who are qualified to record a vote for members of the Representative Assembly.

Times of India.

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RAILWAYS.

Railway Refreshment Rooms and Cars.-

No observant person travelling on Indian railways can help noticing says Railways the absence of quite obvious organization in the matter of providing meals and other refreshments to upper class Passengers wether in the restaurant cars attached to trains or in the refreshment rooms along the lines. Some Railway Administrations appear to rest satisfied that they have done all that is required of them when they find a contractor to take charge of the cars or rooms as the case may be, without troubling about the other arrangements necessary to ensure the convenience of their passengers. There are several things that passengers have a right to expect, outside the mere supply of food, that the Refreshment Contractor cannot ensure because he has no control over the servants of the railway and if Railway Administrations do not give sufficient attention to these things it follows that passengers have adundant grounds for dissatisfaction with the management.

We note here some of the matters which require the attention of Railway Administrations. No sustained endeavour is made to take orders from passengers as to the meals they require or to advise them and where they will be served. At a starting station it is true that an attempt is made to obtain information from passengers as to their requirements, but generally this duty is performed by some non-descript individual who turns up when a passenger is absorbed with his luggage or his friends and it is improbable that his attention can be secured. If the said non-descript gets an answer that a meal is required he jots down something on a scrap of paper and vanishes, leaving no trace of his identity and if he fails to communicate with the Refreshment Contractors' servants it is impossible to fix responsibility. But when passengers join at intermediate stations, in nine cases out of ten, they are left to find out for themselves when and where they will be served. It is arranged when a train is running to time for meals to be served at particular stations but when trains are running late, as often as not passengers are not advised of the change in the stations at which meals are to be served or if they are advised it is at the last moment when they have to hurry out of their compartments at considerable inconvenience, if not risk of being left behind.

Englishman

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The Annual Meeting of the South Indian Railway:-

The ordinary general meeting of the South Indian Railway Company (Limited) was held recently in London, Sir Henry Kimber Bart., presiding,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said that the lines worked by the company for the other owners all covered their working expenses, and, with one small exception gave a satisfactory return on the capital outlay. Referring to new construction the Chairman observed that during the war they were not permitted. to build any extensions because of the outlay involved There were, however, several promising lines for which surveys and estimates had been made which only awaited favourable opportunties or for a start to be made on them. On the open lines the most urgent need was for new workshops, the necessity for which was felt even twelve or thirteen years ago. Since then the question has been continually under consideration, and it had

been hoped to have made a start on them five years ago, but the war compelled the postponement of that as of all other new works. The directors hoped that no further delay would occur, as the existing shops had long ceased to meet the needs of the railway and the very greatest difficulty was being experienced in maintaining the rolling stock.

As regards the revenue account the percentage of working expenses to gross earnings although a little higher than in the previous years was considerably less than in the years prior to the war, He was, however, afraid that they could not hope in the future to maintain those low averages, particularly as arrears had to be made up. The revenue earnings showed a small increase of £17, 964. Passenger traffic increased in numbers by 656,958 and in money by £57,976 but the goods traffic fell off by 352,595 tons and £30,979. owing to restrictions on traffic and shortage of rolling stock. That shortage was chieflydue to two factors, one being the large number of engines and vehicles taken for use in war areas and the other the impossibility of obtaining new rolling stock or even the necessary materials for maintaining the existing stock in full efficiency, with the result that locomotives and rolling stock had been kept out of service. The company's share of surplus profits for the year 1918-19 amounted to £59,628, and a cablegram received a few days ago estimated that their share of the surplus profits on the working for the halfyear ending the 10th September 1919, amounted to roughly £44,600. The monsoon reports from India were favourable and with a return to more normal business all round their earnings both in passenger and goods traffic were likely to increase:

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

***

British Railway Men.

The executive commitee of the National Union of Railwaymen conferred with the Prime Minister, who presented the Government's analysis of the union's wages demand.

Mr. J. H. Thomas (the general secretary of the union) says that the Government,s figures are to be examined before a reply is given by his executive committee. He adds that the Government has offered to appoint a new body to deal with railway disputes, including a representative of the general public. It has also offered to the union certain representation on the new committee which is to manage the railways of the State. This body will replace the present executive railway commitee.

Details of the scheme for the joint control of the railways show that Mr. J. H. Thomas, M. P., the railwaymen's secretary, and two other trade unionists, will join the central advisory committee, which supersedes the Government's railway executive. The new committee, in addition to formulating a policy, will take an active part in direction: the railway organisation of the country' though the directors of the railway companies will continue to hold their present positions. The Government trading interests and the public will also be represented on the committee. Though the scheme falls far short of the railwaymen's proposals the men regard it as a great advance towards complete nationalisation and joint control of the railways by the State and unions alone.

The Government has offered the railwaymen equal representation with the general managers on a board invested with plenary powers to control the railways and settle the conditions of service and wages.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

The Government Entomologist of the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, notifies that he is in a position to supply Fish Oil Rosin Soap at the rate of Rs. 0-2-1 per lb. This should be used to spray mango trees to save them from the mango hopper disease. A pamphlet containing instructions showing how the soap should be applied will be sent free of charge to any tree owner who applies to the Government Entomologist, Agricultural College, Coimbatore. The tree owners living in Northern Circars can obtain the soap and the pamphlet by applying to the Deputy Director of Agriculture, No. 1 Circle, Anakapalle.

***

Some interesting observations were made by the Chairman of the Bank of New Zealand at the last annual meeting of proprietors concerning the industries of the Dominion. When the Imperial Commandeer expires, said Mr. Beauchamp, as it will about the middle of next year, it is probable that the prices of wool, meat, butter and cheese will decline, partly through the stress of competition, but mainly because our customers, being impoverished by the war, will be unable to pay high prices. A fall in prices will affect the prosperity we are now enjoying, because it will involve a reduction in our income, and this can be recovered only by increased production. We must bring more land into profitable occupation, and farm on scientific lines.

***

Asanol, Dec. 17:—The Bristol fighter aeroplane which met with an accident here on the afternoon of 13th instant baffled all attempts to repair locally. The damaged machine was packed up and was sent to Amballa by to-day's train. Lieutenant Davis, the pilot, who is still confined in the Burlington Hospital, is progressing favourably and has been declared out of danger.

***

A press COMMUNIQUE states:—It is announced for the information of officers of Government that the rate of 2s. 4d. per rupee will be applied for conversion of leave allowances and pensions earned from 16th December 1919 and drawn at or through the Home Treasury or in a Colony in which Indian Government rupee is not legal tender. Furlough allowances fixed in sterling but drawn in India will also be converted at 2s. 4d. per rupee with effect from the same date.

***

A large number of the Indian Staff of the East Indian Loco. Workshops, Jamalpur, refused to work on December 1st and have been out since that date—the workshops being closed. No representation has been made to the Agent, but some anonymous writings were posted in the Workshops indicating that more pay was wanted. The workshops arestill closed.

***

A fire has destroyed a large part of the chateau of Campaigne including the Emperor's room and Council Chamber. The damage is estimated at two million francs. The cause of the outbreak is unknown.

***

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Empire Parliamentary Association, Mr. Balfour said he believed that the partnership in great perils, great sacrifices and great acts of heroes would act as a bond of glorious memories between the different parts of the Empire for all time.

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I sat me down, last night, to dine, and sip my usual glass of wine; but my devoted head got hid, in spite of all gymstunts I did, in clouds of insects, verdant green, and nasty, vicious, low and mean. They put upon my wine a head, and soon my taste for port had fled. They got inside my mouth and ears. They brushed my eyeballs, drawing tears. I expiated all my sins as skeeters sucked, my poor old shins, but I could get no chance stoop—intent on supping green fly soup. A nice blane-mange came round my way all decked with flies in great array. I rose up, hungry, without hope—the blamed thing looked like mottled soap. They say all creatures, great or small, that live on this terrestrial ball, are useful in their humble way. Now let me ask you, if I may, what in this world can be the good of things that spoil a pilgrim's food? I used to say, when young and wee "My friend, there are no flies on me!" That old saw now I can't abide—I've thousands of the pests inside.—George Johnstone, in the Englishman.

*
* *

A certain engineer had become tired of the boasful talk he heard from other engineers at his boarding house, so one evening he said. "This morning I went over to see a new machine we've got at our place, and it's astonishing how it works." "And how does it work?" asked one. "Well," was the reply, "by means of a pedal attachment, a fulcrumed lever converts a vertical reciprocating motion into a circular movement. The principal part of the machine is a huge disc that revolves in a vertical plane. Power is applied through the axis of the disc, and work is done on the periphery, and the herdest steel, by mere impact, may be reduced to any shape. "What is this wonderful machine?" he was asked. "A grindstone!" was the reply.

*
* *

They have found in Mexico fossils of a man who was 32ft. 10 in. in height. So says the Associated Press of America. It was found by workmen near a little village called Nanacamilpa, in the State of Vera Cruz. The natives, who still cling to the traditions of their Indian ancestors, declared the giant was related to the gods of their forefathers. They erected a catafalque in the plaza, upon which the giant rested in state for many days, covered with flowers, and at night carefully guarded The finding of this mammoth fossil has aroused the Mexican scientists. But a professor of the National Museum thinks he will find it is that of a pre-historic vertebrate not of the human race.

*
* *

In France the mixture of change received is extraordinary. One may be handed anything from iron pennies to postage stamps. A good story is that of the two housewives who met in the market place. One of them had bought a rabbit, and her friend remarked that she must have paid a fair price for it "Not so bad," says the other; "I gave six 15c. stamps, four 10c. stamps, a book of tickets for the Metropolitan Railway, four boxes of matches, and a packet of cigarettes." What all that comes to one leaves learned readers to guess.

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